BREWSTER KALEIDOSCOPE SOCIETY

NEWS SCOPE

A newsletter for designers, collectors and lovers of kaleidoscopes

Vol. 22, No. 1
Winter 2007

What is Art?

* What are the various forms of art? When you think of art, what do you think of?

* Is there a size limit to art?

* Is art defined by its materials?

* Does art have to be representational? Is it necessary for it to actually look like something? Can it be something that suggests something real, even if it doesn't look exactly like our eye sees it in real life?

* What about abstract art? What is abstract art about? It can suggest many things, create many moods, or simply celebrate something as basic as form or color.

* Is it art if it illustrates words? Are the illustrations in a book art?

* Can art be functional? If a piece is something we use for everyday living, like a fork or a blanket, can it be art?

* Are crafts art? Jewelry making, quilting, and woodworking are all referred to as crafts. Some people also call them art, while others only use the word art for certain pieces that they feel cross the line from crafts to art. Is the thing that makes the difference between craft and art the fact that it is functional?

* Is all art good art? Is there such a thing as mediocre art? Who decides, and how is it decided?

* If art is used to sell something is it still art? This is called commercial art, like trademarks and logos, billboards, tv ads, animation in computer games, and package design. Is that art?

* Does art have to be beautiful? What about a piece that looks truly ugly to you? Is it still art? Perhaps the artist is communicating something with that "ugliness". Sometimes the artist is trying to shock the viewer, or to make you feel uncomfortable. Why would an artist want to do that? Perhaps to make people see things in a new way?

* Does it have to be painstaking to be art? Does it have to be something that takes a long time to do, and is very difficult to do? Or can a quick sketch on a napkin be a work of art?

* If art is something done by human hands, what is art generated on a computer? Does our definition of art include that?

What is the one thing that all these art forms have in common? All art has one defining thing that it shares with all other art - COMMUNICATION! All forms of art communicate something... a feeling, an idea, a record of fact, another way of looking at something, a statement about something wrong in our society, an appreciation of something beautiful, a spiritual understanding.

Ask ten people what art is and you will get ten different answers. To a working artist, art is a commodity to be manufactured for demanding clients. A gallery owner may tell you art is a possession that, for a reasonable price, will enrich your life. When asked of art teachers, they may talk about media and techniques.

Art is all these things and much more.

* Art is a language. All art forms serve as vehicles to convey ideas and emotions. The visual arts provide a rich medium for uses as diverse as mass marketing and religious expression. Any language must have a vocabulary. Just as words are combined into sentences to express a particular idea, artists combine line, shape, color, and form to express the artist's vision.

* Art is a reflection of the world as perceived by human beings. Human perception relies heavily on previous experience to impose order on the world around us. We truly see what we expect to see. The physical properties of a viewer's visual system together with their memories and expectations allow spots of pigment on a canvas or glowing dots on a computer screen to be transformed into the uniquely human experience we call art.

All of this being said, we would like to follow-up on this topic in the next issue of the newsletter with your comments about how kaleidoscopes fit into the world of art.

Please email your comments and observations to admin@brewstersociety.com. All of these responses will be compiled for the next issue.

The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society Mission Statement:
The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society is a unique organization which provides a forum for artists, collectors, and retailers to promote and perpetuate kaleidoscopes as an art form.

Message from the Directors

Well, it is that time of the year again. Time to take stock of our lives, set some new goals, and make those often abandoned New Year's resolutions. In order for our resolutions to have resolve, we must translate them into clear steps that can be put into action. Nothing big gets accomplished in one day. New Year's resolutions should be nothing more than a starting point. Sticking to your plan requires hundreds of tiny steps that happen throughout the year.

One of our resolutions for the year, is to put a plan in effect to broaden the scope of our members participation in the BKS. Starting with the article "What Is Art", we want to hear from you. What do you think? We encourage your comments, suggestions for articles or submission of articles for the newsletter. The convention remains our main activity of the year and we want you to have input regarding programs and activities.

Help us continue to make the Brewster Kaleidoscope Society a vital growing community that serves you, the membership.

Sherry Moser
Charles Karadimos
Carolyn Bennett

Charleston-Host City for 2007 Convention

Charleston and the surrounding areas are truly a reflection of their past and have become one of the top five visited places in the U.S. The rich history of the town started in 1670 when English colonists happened upon the area and liked it so much they settled. Charleston was originally called Charles Town in honor of King Charles II of England. More than 70 buildings in Charleston predate the Revolutionary War and much of the distinguishable architecture in the area reflects this unison with the area's history.

Widely recognized as the site where the Civil War started, Charleston has played a vital role in American history in its 335-year-plus existence, as it still does today. There is no better example than a simple walk through historic Charleston along the waterfront where Fort Sumter can be viewed. Scenic boat tours are available to the man-made fortress where the Civil War was launched. Charleston's historic district has stood the test of time and remains one of the south's cultural centers. In fact, the historic district has been referred to as a walking museum. The Battery is a sight to behold along with the city's many museums, art galleries, theaters, markets and churches. Charleston and the surrounding areas are truly a reflection of their past.

Beaches are simply gorgeous and within a short driving distance from anywhere in Charleston. The wide, unspoiled beaches in the area are blessed by a generous coastal climate for most of the year, and pleasant water temperatures keep the ocean just right for a refreshing dip through spring, summer and fall. *(continued on page 4)*

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To access the Members Only Section on www.brewstersociety.com
Username: bksmember
Password: scopes2006
This password will be changed in the April issue of the NewScope

Ad Space Available

We invite you to take advantage of the expanding newsletter to:

- *Extend your marketing*
- *Target a select audience*
- *Promote your artwork*
- *Promote your gallery or store*

For more information contact:
Charles Karadimos
301-253-5789 or
Karascopes@aol.com
Ad rate sheet available at
www.brewstersociety.com/join.html

Cozy's Column

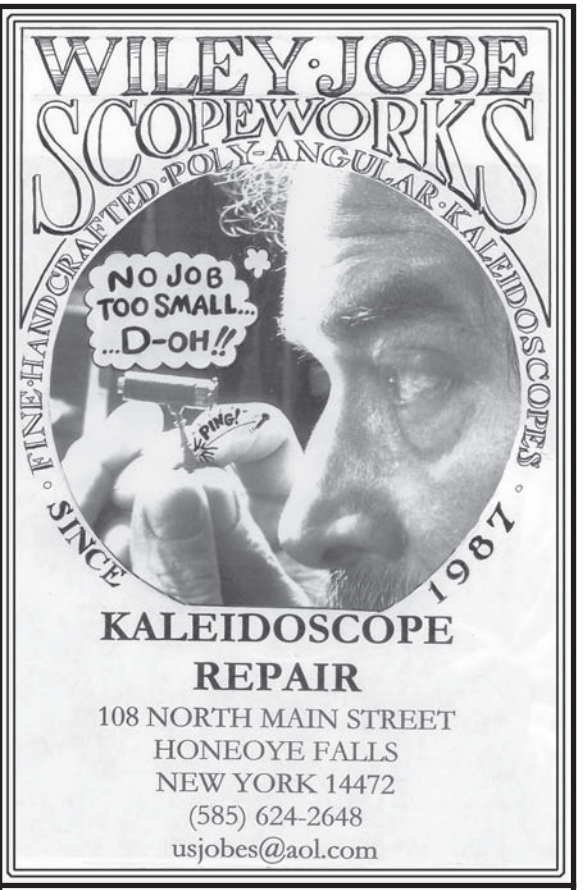
Kaleidoscopes Inspire Harmony Worldwide

"The kaleidoscope is a mystical instrument that guides scattered fragments to a harmonious whole" That is the title of a recent essay by Miti Araki. Her passion for these magical instruments started 17 years ago with the birth of her daughter Kiki, and it was ten years ago that Miti first came to visit me. I was profoundly touched that we, two such divergent people– east and west, age and youth, had both been intuitively drawn to kaleidoscopes, she through a birth and I through a death.

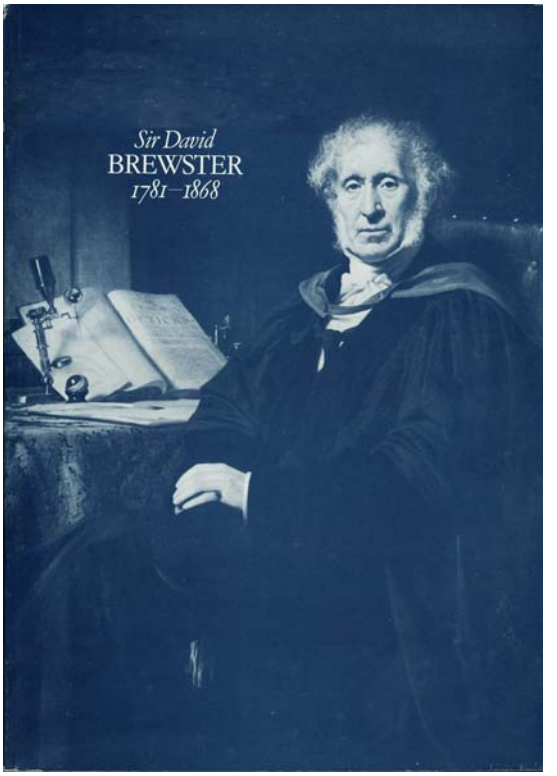
Now, ten years later, after owning and managing Japan's first kaleidoscopes-only shop, Miki feels recharged and is ready to grow and expand. This expansion includes plans for increasing the size of her shop Mukashi-Kan, as well as her personal reflections on the kaleidoscope's sphere of influence in our lives.

"Daily life can be frustrating and our souls can get battered and bruised," Miti states in her essay, "but by peering inside and experiencing the integration of hues and patterns over and over again, our inner conflicts will subside and there will come a quiet time when the ultimate sequence of space and color is attained. At that magical moment, we are able to perceive objectively that the shards which have so disrupted us are only specks in the profoundly steady universe. It is not surprising that some hospitals and homes are beginning to use kaleidoscopes for treatment just like medicine ....When there is an abundance of light, every piece in a kaleidoscope starts to sparkle. Light is a symbol of God; it is the creator of the universe. With no light, with no God, a kaleidoscope can reflect nothing."

Miti also designs kaleidoscopes and says, "For me, making a kaleidoscope is synonymous with giving birth to a new life. A scope reveals its magic only to the person who is holding it. It will teach you how to observe the universe, not through the filter of another person, but through your very own perceptions." Miti looks forward to attending our convention in June and is eager to meet as many kaleidoscope artists and Brewster members there as possible. Be sure to look for her.

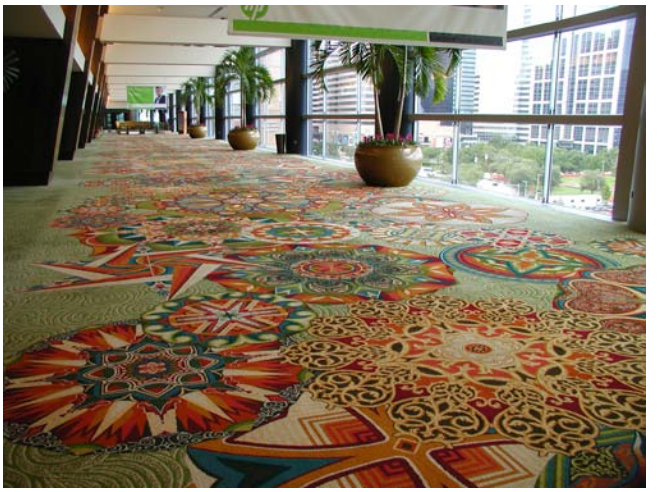


HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Sir David Brewster would have celebrated his 225th birthday on December 11, 1781.

Paula Nadelstern vs. Couristan



A copyright infringement lawsuit filed by well-known quilter and author Paula Nadelstern against Couristan, Inc., the carpet manufacturer; Houston Convention Center Hotel Corporation, the owner of the hotel; Hilton Hotels Corporation, the operator of the hotel; and Wilson & Associates, the interior architecture design firm hired by the hotel, was resolved amicably in a confidential settlement agreement on October 5, 2006. The lawsuit contended that thirteen kaleidoscopic designs from her 1996 book, KALEIDOSCOPES & QUILTS (C&T Publishers) were reproduced without her permission in carpeting manufactured for the hotel, including the 40,000 foot grand ballroom, the junior ballroom, three floor through public spaces, six elevator lobbies, and two skywalks. Couristan claims that when Wilson contracted with Couristan, Wilson provided copies of kaleidoscopic images and instructed Couristan to use these images in the carpet design. The hotel is connected by two skywalks to the George R. Brown convention center, where International Quilt Market and International Quilt Festival are held every autumn. The Couristan website now reads that the carpeting was "inspired by Paula Nadelstern's unique pieced quilts featuring beautiful kaleidoscope medallions and starbursts in vibrant colors," and references Paula's website, www.paulanadelstern.com.

Charleston : Host City for 2007 Convention

(continued from page 2)

Also check out the lighthouses in the area. The Morris Island Lighthouse is located near the Charleston Harbor just off the coast of Folly Beach. When it was built in 1876, the lighthouse stood three-fourths of a mile inland. It now stands in the Atlantic Ocean.

There is much more to Charleston than its historical roots and beaches. We invite you to join us in discovering the culture and arts scene, architecture and cobblestone streets of our host city during our 19th annual convention.

Tips and Techniques : Adhesives

As an artist, no matter what your medium, it is a given that somewhere in your process you will use an adhesive. Today there are a variety of excellent choices. The sticky arsenal now includes a glue or adhesive for practically every need — from home projects to specialized compounds used in surgery or sealing windows on space stations. This issue is devoted to safety and tips for good gluing.

Safety Issues:

(Always read the label for specific safety information but in general)

- Use adhesives in a well-ventilated area.
- Avoid contact with the skin.
- Keep the product away from children.
- Check to see if the adhesive is flammable or toxic while in use or after drying.
- Remember that when using solvent-based products, odor may remain for some time.
- Wear gloves and a respirator if recommended on the label.

Tips for Good Gluing

(Read the product label carefully before you purchase for instructions on use.)

- Know your requirements - moisture, temperatures, movement, visibility.
- Read the label carefully to see product recommendations for interior and/or exterior use.
- If the adhesive will be used for woodworking, determine whether the product is sandable or stainable.
- Don't use too much - a thin coat usually works best.
- Try bonding a test piece to see if the adhesive stains.
- Keep the container closed - exposure to air will harden most adhesives.
- Unless you're using an adhesive that bonds immediately, clamp your work for a stronger bond.
- Clean away excess as soon as possible.
- Prepare the materials to be joined. In general, surfaces must be sound, clean and dry. Some adhesives recommend "roughing" the surface to promote a better bond.
- Setting and curing times will vary based on the temperature. Adhesives can also expand or contract due to temperature or humidity fluctuations.
- Mix any glue components carefully.
- Know the open time for your adhesive. The open time is the time after the adhesive is applied and before it starts to set. This is the time that allows you to reposition material if necessary.

There are many types of front surface mirrors out on the market today that can be and has been used in the kaleidoscope industry. Many mirrors made for other markets have some sort of color tint to them: yellow, reds, blue to purple, making them an unsuitable mirror for a high quality kaleidoscope. Even the current mirrors made for the kaleidoscope industry has some sort of color to them, from gray to a hint of blue. Then there's the neutral mirror that was designed decades ago by the same company that coated the mirrors for the Hubble Space Telescope. The neutral mirror has the highest reflection value of any kaleidoscope mirror on the market and is the only mirror that's truly color free. You will see brighter and more vivid colors with the neutral mirror. This mirror once dominated the kaleidoscope industry but because of its high cost it was replaced with a cheaper and lower-performing mirror. We are proud to be able to supply the kaleidoscope industry with this mirror once again. Not only have we brought it back to the market, we brought it back at a lower cost. We call this mirror 'X Grade'.

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Scoops on Scopes

Contact your favorite gallery for prices and availability

A new nine inch long kaleidoscope by **Harold Bieber** is made from one solid piece of highly figured maple burl. It has a three mirror, 30-60-90 system, and the object case is filled with hand formed glass shapes, dichroic glass, etc.
Open edition.

Parman Brothers Ltd. is introducing a new scope with a walnut base and arm with a triangular oak and walnut tube. This 8" tall design features a 2 mirror system with a turning tray filled with a colorful assortment of trinkets and beads and comes in 2 versions, the *TMS-The Music Scope* and the *TTS-Turntable Scope.* The TMS features a musical turntable while the TTS is turned by hand. Both are open editions.

Sitting in the stand of draped glass representing a snow drift is *"Winter"* by **Peggy and Steve Kittelson**. This dimensional decked out snowman features a six point 2 mirror system that represents a snowflake and is enhanced by silver dichroic on the third side. The object case is oil filled with a flame sculpted tree with lights, a mitten, a snowman, a candy cane, and sparkly drifts of snow. Limited to 50 pieces, *"Winter"* stands 9 1/2" tall and is 2" in diameter.

Phil Coghill's newest design is the *Kaleidoscope Desk Set.* The unit base holds a 2"x 2"x 9" scope available with a 2-mirror, 6-point image or 3-mirror system. The object case is liquid filled. The base also holds a matching pen and cardholder. The set is available in a variety of woods. Open edition.

Miraposa by **Sue Rioux** is a dichroic cylinder with dichroic filagree butterfly wings on the black irridescent body. This new kaleidoscope from Sue is 9"L X 6"H X 1-1/2"W and is limited to 100 pieces.

Voyager is #3 in the 'AMERICAN BEAUTY' series by **Charles J. Sorg**. This limited edition design features a 3-mirror system within the fused and slumped glass exterior and has a dry turning object cell. 11" H x 8"W x 3"D.

In the words of **Renate Shanahan** about her image, *"Boy Climbing Tree."*
"This is an example of what I sometimes refer to as the 'Busby Berkeley' look. I custom create these for people who usually wish to give a KaleidoGraphic as a personal gift to someone they know. Sometimes the person who orders it loves kaleidoscopes, and sometimes they're giving it to someone they know who loves kaleidoscopes. Just like in those old black and white movies, many times it's the legs that make for interesting graphics."

More information about the Giant Kaleidoscope built by **Mr. Itoh** and **Koji Yamami** in Izu-Kougen, Japan mentioned in the last issue of the NewsScope, can be found at http://www.kaleidoscopes.jp/eng/trend.htm.

Nellie Bly Weekend

Halloween in a former ghost town is a big event. Townspeople really get into the spirit of things and Nellie Bly is no exception. The kaleidoscope weekend at Halloween has become an annual event at Nellie Bly. Where else can you go to look at kaleidoscopes to your heart's content and then get to dressed up in ghoulish costumes and party the night away. Red was the color of the day as we all tried to come up with some way to look like killer tomatoes as the theme this year was "Attack of the Killer Tomatoes". The event drew a great crowd of artists and collectors. Classes by Sherry Moser, Randy and Shelley Knapp, and Peggy and Steve Kittelson were full. Demonstrations by Janice Chesnik, Paul and Susan Knox and Judith Paul rounded out our Saturday activities before we were off to transform ourselves.

Sunday was a beautiful and perfect day for our brunch outside benefiting the local humane society,

an organization which Mary Wills and Sally Dryer are very involved. The annual quilt challenge quilts were unveiled. Every year, quilters who want to participate are challenged to create a quilt using the same set of fabric. Download the color version of the newsletter at the BKS website (Members Only section) to see these beautiful quilts in color.

Who knows what the whacky theme will be for next year but for those who have been coming to this event for the last several years, they won't care. It will be fun and you are invited.

NEW!

"The Extraordinary T-Shirt Quilt - A Scrapbook You Can Sleep Under"
by Lauren Kingsland

This beautiful book will help you transform laundry into legacy.
There are lots of color pictures for inspiration, plus hints for how to design with multiple sizes of blocks and tame stretchy fabrics.

Order through our website:
www.LaurenKingsland.com
or send $18.95 + $2 s/h
(MD residents add 5% tax)
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CQS Press
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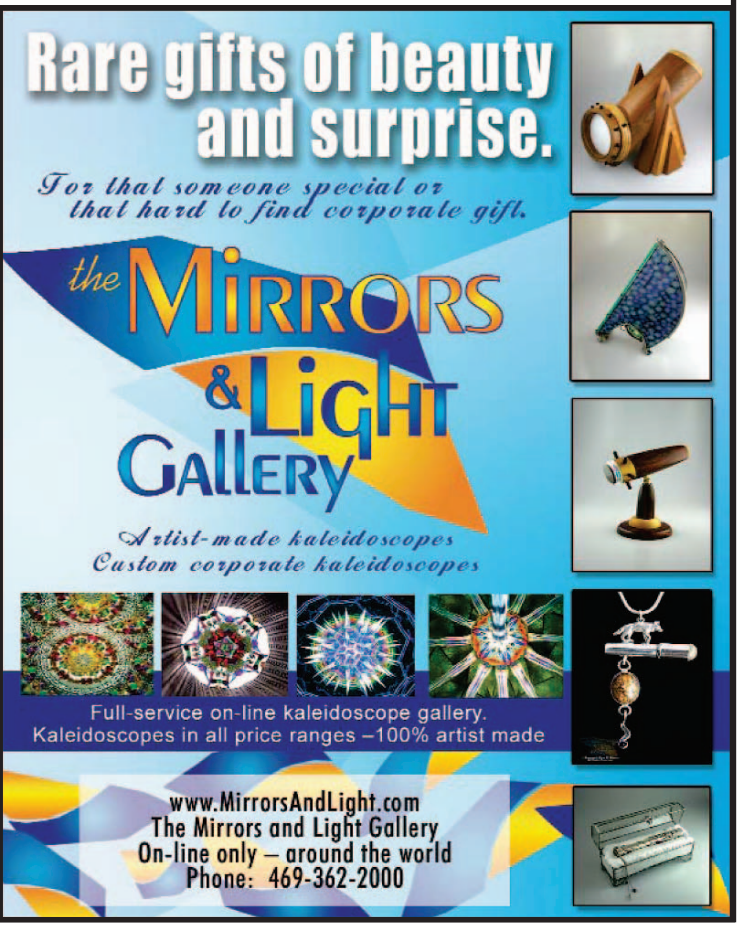
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Collector: Cheryl Leppla

How long have you been collecting?
Longer than I would like to imagine. When I was in college, I went to May D&F, a department store, and wandered through the toy department, where I found a toy kaleidoscope made in England. I had loved the scopes I received in my Christmas stockings, and was tempted to buy it, but it cost $5 or $10 (the memory is going). As a college student, it was hard to justify that expense, but when I went home and told my mother I had seen a kaleidoscope and had thought about buying it, she told me if I wanted it, I should get it. I went back to the store, and it was gone. The following Christmas, when I was living in Idaho, I received a kaleidoscope in my stocking. That would have been 1973. Every year thereafter, "Santa" brought be a scope at Christmas.

How many scopes do you have?
I have no idea. I think that is probably a good thing because otherwise I would have to keep track of them all.

What makes you decide which scope to collect?
Today, when I buy a scope it is for a special reason and from a special artist. I am always drawn to the traditional scopes.

Do you have a favorite scope, favorite artist or a favorite style?
Without a doubt my favorite style of scope is the traditional--falling pieces with either a two or three mirror system. Recapturing the childhood memories of the sound of fallen pieces and the unexpected change of image is, for me, the ultimate kaleidoscope experience.

What do your friends think about your collection?
No matter whether it is a friend or a visitor to my home, everyone is amazed at the variety of styles. I think many are surprised by the fact kaleidoscopes are no longer toys. They appreciate the fact that this is a "hands on" collection. They can pick them up and play with them. There is no need to just look at them sitting on the shelf.

What emotions are evoked when you look at your scopes?
Oh, interesting question. Scopes take me to another realm. They draw me into the depths of whatever emotion might be at the surface. In general, however, they elicit a calm and peacefulness which I might liken to a form of meditation.

Do you collect other things?
Once a collector, always a collector. I started with angels.

What else do you like to do?
Travel. It is all about the journey.

Cheryl at Machu Picchu, Peru

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Kaleidoscopin' Those 2 Indians

Special Poster by **Sam English** designed exclusively for the Brewster Kaleidoscope Society's 18th Annual Convention in Albuquerque NM.
22 1/2" x 19 1/2"
Signed by the artist (limited number available) ... $60
Unsigned ... $50

What is new with Clarity Glass Design?

George and I, along with our four children; Nikolas, Victoria, Alexander and Christopher, are so excited to be the New owners of Clarity Glass Design! Brad and Linda Rogers, the previous owners, were right on when they described the kaleidoscope community as a warm and tight-knit family. We have experienced nothing less than the friendliest welcome and consideration as we learn this new world of beauty.

Our desire is to bring you new products and parts that will help you create and express your artistic abilities. We take pride in the excellent quality of Front Surface Mirror, Stained Glass Finishing Compound, and array of Kaleidoscope components that we offer to you. We hope to continue to be your #1 resource for these items. We welcome your ideas and input regarding these and other products.

This past year has been very rewarding as we worked together with the Roger's to bring you the Fused Glass Kaleidoscope Kit, COE 90 Wheel pack, and the Metal Art Glass Stands. At the beginning of 2007 the Image Wheel will be available in Brass.

We want to thank you for the cards, letters and phone calls you have sent. You have been so kind to us and we didn't want that to go unnoticed. Our primary objective is to serve you.

Terri Karahalios
Clarity Glass Design

Commemorative Pins

• Original Brewster Society Pin ... $12
• New BKS Logo Pin ... $10

Convention Pins
• 2004 Portland OR ... $7
• 2005 Nashville TN ... $7
• 2006 Albuqueque NM ... $7
All 5 pins for $35

BKS Logo Hat
Black with multicolored embroidery
One size fits all ... $15

If you would like to order any of these items, please send a check to :
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For orders of $50 or more,
add $8 for shipping
Under $50, shipping is included.
MD residents add 5% sales tax

International orders only:
Include $15 shipping for all orders.
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Email orders to:
admin@brewstersociety.com

• • • BKS 2007 Renewal • • •

For those that have not paid their 2007 membership dues, a card has been included in this issue. Please return the card along with payment ASAP ... Thank you.

Lightwaves

19th Annual
Brewster Kaleidoscope Society Convention
Charleston, SC
June 21-24, 2007

NAME(S)_____
STREET_____
CITY_____STATE_____ZIP_____
TELEPHONE_____FAX_____
EMAIL*_____
ATTENDEE CATEGORY: ___Collector ___Exhibiting Artist ___Artist ___Retailer ___2 day Retailer
***You will receive confirmation via email only.**
Print name(s) exactly as you want it to appear on your name badge.
Please submit a separate form for each person attending unless address and email are the same.

PLEASE INDICATE:
___First time to attend a Brewster Convention
___I will be unveiling a new scope.
___First time to unveil.
___I will be donating a door prize.
___I will be submitting a piece for the silent auction. (Artists only)
___If children in your party-state ages _____

Embassy Suites Hotel Airport - Convention Center
5055 International Blvd Charleston SC 29418
843-747-1882 In house reservations 8-5 EST
Or Call: 1-800-EMBASSY
Or go to the hotel link at: www.brewstersociety.com
Room Rate $151 Special Rate in Effect until May 21, 2007
Cancellations must be made 2 weeks prior to arrival date.
You are responsible for making your own hotel reservations.

REGISTRATION FEE: $225 per person until May 18, 2007.
Late registration $300 after May 18, 2007. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Enclosed is:
$_____for_____registration(s) @ $225
$_____for_____Scott Cole Introductory class @ $35 Limited to 15 (1 hour)
Name(s) of person attending _____
$_____for_____Scott Cole Intermediate class @ $140 Limited to 10 (4 hours)
Name(s) of person attending _____
$_____for____artist display table @ $100....limit of 2 tables per artist
$_____for new membership or renewal @ $45 US, $50 International.
You must be a Brewster Society member to attend.
$_____for_____2 day retailer registrations @ $125 Limited to wholesale ordering session on Thursday and unveiling and sales room only on Friday. Programs, classes, and meals not included. (Retailers only)
$_____TOTAL MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: The Brewster Society
Or Charge VISA/MC:_____ Exp. date:MM/YY_____

If you have questions please contact: Joanna Coates, Registration Coordinator at 404-691-0614
FAX 706-348-6951 or email: registration@brewstersociety.com

Mail Registration and checks to: Joanna Coates
1812 Evadale Court
Mableton GA 30126

BKS Convention Cancellation Policies:
Registration Fees: Full Refund less $25 cancellation fee per person - Up to 30 days in advance of the 1st day of the event
50% Refund less $25 cancellation fee 10-29 days in advance of the 1st day of the event.
No refund within 10 days of the event.
Exhibit Space Fee: Nonrefundable within 30 days of the convention
Class fee: Nonrefundable within 30 days of the convention
Notes: Special circumstances may be considered upon written request at the time of cancellation.
Refunds will be paid by check no later that 30 days following the close of the convention.

2007 Schedule of Events

May 5 - 26, 2007 : The 7th IKA (International Kaleidoscope Association) Exhibition will be held in Tokyo Japan at Galerie Vivant. We are looking for creative kaleidoscope artists to promote their work, with a chance to have a one man show at Galerie Vivant for a selected artist. The entry deadline is March 31st. More details can be found at www.g-vivant.com.

June 7 - 9, 2007 : Glass Art Society's 2007 Conference: Transformational Matter will be held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For more information about the 2007 GAS Conference contact: Glass Art Society, 3131 Western Ave., Ste 414, Seattle, WA 98121, Tel: 206.382.1305 Fax: 206.382.2630, info@glassart.org, www.glassart.org The Brewster Kaleidoscope Society is a corporate member of the Glass Art Society.

June 21 - 24, 2007 : "Lightwaves" 19th Annual Brewster Kaleidoscope Society Convention, Embassy Suites Hotel Aiport - Convention Center Charleston SC. Registration form on page 11.

Weather in Charleston, SC in June/July : Average high mid 80's, Average low mid 60's

Interesting Charleston Fact : Rainbow Row is one of Charleston's most recognized sights, and its evocative name is visibly evident. Lying along East Bay Street, the series of homes is colored purple, salmon, yellow, terracotta, aqua, and green. These homes were built in the mid- to late- 1700s as merchants' stores and homes. In the 1900s they were restored and converted into private homes, as they are today.

July 14 - September 16, 2007 : The 3rd Kaleidoscope Exhibition will be held at the World Children's Art Museum in Okazaki Japan, coordinated by Kazuko Ogata. This is the first public museum to have the innovative kaleidoscope exhibition in Japan.

THE BREWSTER KALEIDOSCOPE SOCIETY
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